

COMMITTEE REPORT

MADAM PRESIDENT:

The Senate Committee on Health and Provider Services, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 393, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

- 1 Page 1, delete lines 1 through 7, begin a new paragraph and insert:
- 2 "SECTION 1. IC 21-13-1-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.144-2007,
- 3 SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 4 JULY 1, 2009]: Sec. 5. "Fund":
- 5 (1) for purposes of IC 21-13-2, refers to the minority teacher or
- 6 special education services scholarship fund established by
- 7 IC 21-13-2-1;
- 8 (2) for purposes of IC 21-13-3, refers to the nursing scholarship
- 9 fund established by IC 21-13-3-1;
- 10 (3) for purposes of IC 21-13-4, refers to the National Guard
- 11 tuition supplement program fund established by IC 21-13-4-1;
- 12 ~~and~~
- 13 (4) for purposes of IC 21-13-5, refers to the National Guard
- 14 scholarship extension fund established by IC 21-13-5-1; ~~and~~
- 15 **(5) for purposes of IC 21-13-6, refers to the primary care**
- 16 **physician loan forgiveness fund established by IC 21-13-6-3.**
- 17 SECTION 2. IC 21-13-6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
- 18 A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
- 19 1, 2009]:
- 20 **Chapter 6. Primary Care Physician Loan Forgiveness Program**
- 21 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "primary care".**

Page 1, delete lines 14 through 17, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"Sec. 2. (a) The primary care physician loan forgiveness program is established.

(b) The commission shall administer the primary care physician loan forgiveness program.

Sec. 3. (a) The primary care physician loan forgiveness fund is established to encourage and promote qualified physicians to pursue a medical career in Indiana.

(b) The fund consists of the following:

(1) Appropriations by the general assembly.

(2) Gifts to the fund.

Sec. 4. (a) The commission shall administer the fund.

(b) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds. Interest that accrues from those investments shall be deposited in the fund.

(d) Money in the fund at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund but remains available to be used to provide money for student loan forgiveness payments under this chapter.

Sec. 5. (a) The money in the fund must be used to provide annual student loan forgiveness payments to qualified primary care physicians who are residents of Indiana and practice medicine in Indiana.

(b) Subject to section 8 of this chapter, a student loan forgiveness payment awarded in a particular year under this section is equal to the lesser of the following amounts:

(1) The balance of the physician's total amount of student loans.

(2) Five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

(c) A primary care physician is eligible for a student loan forgiveness payment under this section each year that the individual meets the qualifications under section 6 of this chapter.

Sec. 6. To qualify for a student loan forgiveness payment from the fund, an individual must:

(1) be a resident of Indiana;

(2) be licensed as a physician under IC 25-22.5;

(3) practice as a primary care physician;

(4) conduct the majority of the individual's medical practice

- 1 **in Indiana;**
- 2 **(5) have an outstanding student loan balance at the beginning**
- 3 **of the calendar year; and**
- 4 **(6) be approved by the commission.**

5 **Sec. 7. The medical education board shall annually make**
 6 **available to the commission the most recent information**
 7 **concerning the number of primary care physicians who are serving**
 8 **as medical residents in Indiana.**

9 **Sec. 8. The commission shall annually allocate the available**
 10 **money in the fund to each primary care physician approved under**
 11 **this chapter in proportion to the total number of primary care**
 12 **physicians approved under this chapter.**

13 **Sec. 9. Each:**

14 **(1) primary care physician who applies under this chapter;**
 15 **and**

16 **(2) primary care physician approved under this chapter;**
 17 **shall provide to the commission any information that the**
 18 **commission determines is necessary to administer this chapter."**

19 Delete pages 2 through 3.

(Reference is to SB 393 as introduced.)

and when so amended that said bill do pass .

Committee Vote: Yeas 11, Nays 0.

Senator Miller, Chairperson